

JAMES CRAWFORD
MURDOCH
SARAH ELIZABETH GILES
MURDOCH



James Crawford Murdoch, son of John M. and Isabella Crawford Murdoch, was born February 11, 1869, in Heber City, Utah. His boyhood days were spent very much like those of other pioneer children—herding cows, gathering wood, going fishing, and swimming in the swimming holes near his home. As he grew older he played on the Heber City baseball team and also played a bass horn in the city band.

James was called to serve as a missionary in Wisconsin, and after completing his mission he returned and married Sarah E. Giles on November 27, 1901, in the Salt Lake Temple. To them were born eight children: Mrs. Ervin (Althora) Sackett, Mrs. Mont (Laraine) Giles; Merrol Murdoch, who married Mae Johnson; Mrs. William (Ruby) Jaspersen; James Ruelof Murdoch, who married Rhea Stewart; Bard Murdoch, who married Lois Simpson; Grant Murdoch; and Verd Murdoch, who married Margaret Barton.

After his marriage, James served on a second mission, to Arizona, and it was while he was on this mission that his first child was born. After returning from the mission field he was called to serve as a member of the Wasatch Stake High Council, which position he held 25 years. His occupation was that of a pioneer freighter in the Wasatch and Duchesne County areas. He also was a farmer and stock raiser and worked

in the Park City mines. Early in his married life he was stricken with arthritis, from which he suffered greatly and eventually became an invalid.

At the time of death, August 14, 1959, James, or "Uncle Jim," as he was called, was Heber's oldest native resident. He was 90 years of age.

Sarah Elizabeth Giles Murdoch was born in Heber City, Utah, on December 4, 1878, to George M. and Mary Elizabeth Mayoh Giles. She spent her childhood days on the James Davis ranch, at what was then called Elkhorn, where her father moved his family when she was eight years of age. Later they returned to Heber and she attended the old Sleepy Hollow School.

Sarah's father hauled freight to Park City for the A. C. Hatch Company. In order to help supplement the family income, she would follow him, driving another team.

She always was an ardent Church worker until her health and age prevented her from serving. She taught in the Primary a number of years, was first counselor in the Stake MIA, was a Relief Society visiting teacher, and also served as assistant secretary in the ward Relief Society.

Besides taking care of her home and family, she was for a number of years a midwife, working with Dr. W. R. Wherritt and Dr. T. A. Dannenberg.